

VIA EMAIL

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Delta Stewardship Council
980 Ninth Street
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Attention: Cindy Messer: cindy.messer@Deltacouncil.ca.gov

Subject: Comments in Response to Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Dear Chairman Isenberg and Members of the Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns r.e. the proposed Delta Plan. As a taxpayer, I am astounded and disappointed with the number of governmental entities involved in the management of the Sacramento / San Joaquin Delta. With respect to that, I believe, and I believe it is the intent of the California Legislature, to have one overall agency responsible for the health of the Delta, while sustaining a reasonable level of water exports from the Delta. I believe that entity should be the Delta Stewardship Council, as dictated by the Delta Plan. Therefore, I believe the Delta Plan is remiss in not including requirements for and approval and inclusion of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (aka Bay Delta Canal Plan) in the Delta Plan. I believe the Council is improperly bowing out of that responsibility.

I have not seen any "science" included in the Delta Plan, although I am gratified that it is the intention of the Council to utilize unbiased science in its decisions. I believe the BDCP needs to receive direction from the Delta Plan regarding maximum water exports based on river flows into the Delta, location of the export pumps, Delta salinity and oxygen levels etc. etc. As a resident of Discovery Bay, I am acutely concerned that the water I swim in remains viable. Furthermore, I believe the Delta Plan should require the BDCP to look at alternatives to the incredibly expensive tunnel plan.

I am disappointed that no mention has been made that agriculture also be required to meet water conservation goals such as the 20% urban use reduction. Water intensive crops are grown in California. Desert land in the Westlands Water District requires enormous amounts of water to grow permanent crops like almonds, while leeching

selenium from the soil. As a note, I believe the 8% water export statistic noted in Chapter 1 of the Delta Plan is inaccurate. I also believe the risk of levee failure is overstated in the Delta Plan, both in terms of the possibility of occurrence (given the ongoing restoration work), and the damage done by a levee failure. For example, the Lower Jones Track levee failure a few years ago did not affect water quality or water exports.

In summary, I am looking to the Delta Stewardship Council taking overall responsibility for the health of the Delta, and a Delta Plan that includes the science required to maintain the viability of water quality, especially in the south Delta, given the pressure to move / increase water exports.

Sincerely,

Michael W. McCleery